Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.









MEDITERRANEAN FRUIT FLY

The Mediterranean fruit fly (Ceratitis capitata) is ½ to ¼ inch long, a little shorter than a house fly. It has a palebeige hack that is marbled with shiny black blotches. Its abdomen is yellowish brown and erossed by two broad silvery bands. The wings are colorless except for brown or black markings. When the insect is resting, the wings are extended and droop slightly.

The larva is a slender, pale-beige maggot. It is about 1/4 inch long when full

The female flies puneture fruit and lay their eggs inside. The larvae feed inside the fruit as they develop. Infested fruit spoils and falls to the ground. Damage is difficult to detect unless fruit is cut open.

This insect is one of the world's most destructive fruit pests. It attacks more than 200 kinds of fruits and vegetables.



ORIENTAL FRUIT FLY

The oriental fruit fly (Dacus dorsalis) is about 1/4 inch long and has a wingspan of about three-eighths of an inch. Its back is black and its abdomen is brownish or yellowish. Sometimes there are black T-shaped markings on the abdomen. The wings are colorless.

The larva is pale beige and about ½ inch long.

The female flies insert their eggs beneath the skin of the fruit. The developing larvae feed within the fruit. Larval damage is difficult to detect unless fruit is cut open.

This insect is one of the most destructive fruit pests of Southeast Asia. It attacks more than 150 kinds of fruits and vegetables.



ORANGE SPINY WHITEFLY

The larva of the orange spiny whitefly (Aleurocanthus spiniferus) is very tiny, oval, and brownish or black. It has a cottony waxenerusted fringe around its body.

The adult is about 1/16 inch long, yellowish orange, and coated with a waxy powder. The adults are active in good weather, but when it is cloudy or rainy they do not move about.

The insects feed on leaves of citrus. They secrete honeydew on which a sooty mold grows. Usually, they are found on the underside of new leaves.

A heavy infestation weakens the trees, and eventually kills them. These insects cause serious damage to citrus in Southeast Asia.



ORIENTAL BLACK CITRUS APHID

The oriental black citrus aphid (Toxoptera citricida) is black and, when full grown, about 1/16 inch long. The antennae and legs are sometimes brownish, rather than black. The aphids are generally wingless. Occasionally, winged forms appear. The winged aphids have transparent wings; the forewings are much longer than the rear wings.

The aphids are most numerous in spring and early summer. Development takes about 12 days.

These insects feed on leaves of citrus and cause new growth to be stunted. A heavy infestation can cause the trees to become seriously deformed.

Besides damaging the trees directly, these aphids carry tristeza, a citrus disease that kills the roots and eauses the trees to die.

These insects are a serious pest of citrus in South America.

WATCH FOR NEW CITRUS INSECTS

Help us find insects that slip past our quarantine barrier and attack citrus.

Plant quarantine inspectors watch for destructive insects at seaports, international airports, and border crossings. They intercept thousands of insects each year. But, some insect pest-slip past our quarantine barrier. These are the insects that we want you to help us find.

If we find destructive insects early, before they become numerous, we can keep them in a small area and control them. We may even be able to get rid of them.

Read the descriptions of insects that threaten citrus, and

study the illustrations.

If you find insects like those described here, or that you do not recognize, eall your county agricultural agent or your local, State, or Federal plant protection official.

These citrus insects are pests in areas of the world that ship large quantities of products to the continental United States. If any of these insects were to enter and become established here, the resulting loss in citrus—and in the cost of control measures—could be tremendous.

Help us protect your citrus crop from foreign insect attack. Watch for new citrus insects.



BLACK PARLATORIA SCALE

The black parlatoria scale (Parlatoria zizyphus) spends most of its life beneath a dull-black scale. It gives off a whitish or brownish secretion that sometimes extends beyond the scale. The female is about 1/16 inch lone the male is somewhat smaller.

These insects attach themselves to leaves and fruit of citrus. Who abundant, they form a black crust. A heavy infestation causes the leave to turn yellow and drop and prevents full development of the fruit.

This scale is particularly difficult to control because it is highly resistant to insecticides. It is a pest of citrus in many parts of the world.

CITRUS PSYLLA

The adult eitrus psylla (Diaphorina citri) is about V_8 inch long and mottled brown. It is covered with a waxy secretion that makes it appear dusty.

The nymph is light yellow and about 1/16 inch long.

These insects suck the sap from eitrus leaves, usually new growth. The eaves become covered with honeydew, on which a sooty mold grows. Prolonged feeding results in lowered yields, and if unchecked, can eause defoliation and kill the tree. This pest is also a carrier of citrus greening disease, a virus disease of citrus.

This insect is a serious pest of fruit in India.





Prepared by Plant Protection Division Agricultural Research Service

Washington, D.C.

Issued August 1971